

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED
AMENDMENT TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY
RULE 20-8-.02, "Firms not Required to be Registered."
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia

State Board of Accountancy (hereinafter "Board") proposes an amendment to the Georgia State Board of Accountancy Rules, RULE 20-8-.02, "Firms Not Required to be Registered," (herein after "proposed rule amendment"). The Board voted to post this notice of adoption at a meeting on May 11th, 2009. The proposed rule amendment details when a firm is not required to register. This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment, is being mailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

A public hearing will be held at 9:45 a.m. June 10th, 2009 at the Secretary of State's Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive in Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendment.

At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for official record. Oral statements should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 P.M.) on June 5th, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to Randall D. Vaughn, Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia State Board of Accountancy, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. Telephone (478) 207-2440 or fax (866) 888-9718.

The Board will consider the proposed rule amendment for adoption at a meeting scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on June 10th, 2009 at the Secretary of State's Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive in Macon, Georgia 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Accountancy has the authority to adopt a proposed rule amendment to Rule 20-12-.16 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-3-2, 43-3-5, 43-3-21, and 43-3-35.

At its meeting on May 11th, 2009 the Georgia State Board of Accountancy voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-3-2, 43-3-5, 3-3-21, and 43-3-35. Additionally, at the meeting, the Board voted that it was legal and feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-3-2, 43-3-5, 43-3-21, and 43-3-35 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Accountancy.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4.

This 11th day of May, 2009.

Randall D. Vaughn
Division Director
Professional Licensing Boards Division

Posted: May 11, 2009

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY
RULES
RULE 20-8-.02, "Firms not Required to be Registered."**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this rule is to detail which Firms do not require Registration.

MAIN FEATURES: This is a new rule detailing which Firms do not require Registration.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY
RULE 20-8-.02, "Firms not Required to be Registered."**

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted.

RULE 20-8-.02, "Firms not Required to be Registered", is hereby created as follows:

**RULES OF
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

CHAPTER 20-8
INDIVIDUALS, PARTNERSHIPS, ASSOCIATIONS AND CORPORATIONS COMPOSED
OF REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Rule 20-8-.02 Firms not Required to be Registered

(1) A firm that does not have an office in this state may perform compilation or review services to be performed in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review services (SSARS) for a client having its office in this state without registering with the Board if:

(a) Such firm complies with the ownership requirements of 43-3-21.

(b) Such firm participates in a peer review program whose standards at a minimum comply with the "Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Review" promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) in a manner consistent with the timing and completion requirements of Code Section 43-3-23.

(c) Such firm provides services through an individual with practice privileges under subsection (b) of Code Section 43-3-24 related to substantial equivalency practice privileges. Practice privileges under subsection (b) of Code Section 43-3-24 are not permitted for an individual unless that individual holds a valid license

as a certified public accountant in a state which grants similar practice privileges to license holders in this state.

(2) A firm that does not have an office in this state and is not performing services described in 20-8-.01(1) and 20-8.02(1) above may perform other professional services included in the practice of public accountancy while using the title 'CPA' or 'CPA Firm' in this state without registering with the Board if:

(a) Such firm provides services through an individual with practice privileges under subsection (b) of Code Section 43-3-24 related to substantial equivalency practice privileges. Practice privileges under subsection (b) of Code Section 43-3-24 are not permitted for an individual unless that individual holds a valid license as a certified public accountant in a state which grants similar practice privileges to license holders in this state.

(b) That firm can lawfully perform such services in the state where said individuals with practice privileges have their principal place of business.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. §§ 43-3-2, 43-3-5, 43-3-21, and 43-3-35